

Serial No: 10/731,167

GERLACH et al.

PF 54173

REMARKS

Please add the following paragraph to the Specification, on page 2, line 26:

Brief Description of the Drawings

In Figure 1, the lateral compressive strengths (unit: Newton, N) of the two catalysts A and B are plotted over the time of the autoclave test (in hours).

060607

-2-

Serial No: 10/731,167

GERLACH et al.

PF 54173

Current listing of claims:

Please amend claims 13-17 as set forth in the following listing of claims:

1. (previously presented) A process for the catalytic hydrogenation of a non-aromatic group in an organic compound in the presence of a catalyst whose preparation has involved precipitation of catalytically active components onto monoclinic, tetragonal or cubic zirconium dioxide, and wherein the catalytically active components of the catalyst before treatment with hydrogen comprise from 20 to 65% by weight of oxygen-containing compounds of zirconium, calculated as ZrO_2 , from 1 to 30% by weight of oxygen-containing compounds of copper, calculated as CuO , from 15 to 50% by weight of oxygen-containing compounds of nickel, calculated as NiO , and from 15 to 50% by weight of oxygen-containing compounds of cobalt, calculated as CoO .
2. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalytically active components precipitated further comprise metal salts of an additional metal selected from transition groups VIII and IB of the Periodic Table.
3. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the metal salts are basic salts which are sparingly soluble or insoluble in water.
4. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the salts are oxides, hydrated oxides, hydroxides, carbonates and/or hydrogencarbonates.
5. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the additional metal is selected from the group consisting of Fe, Ru, Rh, Pd and Pt.
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)

060607

-3-

Serial No: 10/731,167

GERLACH et al.

PF 54173

8. (canceled)
9. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a molar ratio of nickel to copper is greater than 1.
10. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the monoclinic, tetragonal or cubic zirconium dioxide contains one or more oxides of metals of transition groups IIIB or main group IIA of the Periodic Table.
11. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrogenation is carried out at from 20 to 300°C.
12. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrogenation is carried out in the gas/liquid phase at absolute pressures of from 1 to 320 bar or in the gas phase at pressures of from 1 to 100 bar.
13. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-aromatic group unsaturated group is an aliphatic CC double bond or CN double bond.
14. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-aromatic group unsaturated group is an aliphatic CC triple bond or CN triple bond.
15. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-aromatic group aliphatically unsaturated group is an aldehyde group or keto group.
16. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 for preparing a secondary amine, wherein the non-aromatic group aliphatically unsaturated group is a nitrile group and a reaction with a primary amine is carried out.

060607

-4-

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Pg: 6/7

Serial No: 10/731,167

GERLACH et al.

PF 54173

17. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 for preparing a tertiary amine, wherein the non-aromatic group ~~aliphatically unsaturated group~~ is a nitrile group and a reaction with a secondary amine is carried out.
18. (canceled)
19. (canceled)
20. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the non-aromatic group in the organic compound is an aliphatically unsaturated group.

060607

-5-

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Pg: 7/7

Serial No: 10/731,167

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PF 54173

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 9-17 and 20 are pending in the current Application. The Specification has been amended to include a brief description of the drawing. Claims 13-17 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Favorable action is therefore solicited.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to Deposit Account No. 14.1437. Please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
NOVAK DRUCE DELUCA & QUIGG



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-6-